GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:519
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN RURAL AREAS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita availability of post and telegraph offices in the rural sector in comparison to urban sector at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more post and telegraph offices in the rural sector during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTIC 519 FOR 23RD APRIL, 2001 REGARDING POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN RURAL AREAS.

Department of Posts

As on 31/3/2000, India has 138149 Post Offices in rural and 16402 Post Offices in Urban areas. A post office serves on an average a population of 5462 and an area of 21.26 Sq. Kms. Population served per Post Office in rural areas is 4540 whereas the same in urban areas is 13240 (1991 census).

A target of opening of 500 Extra Departmental Branch offices (EDBOs), 50 Departmental Sub Offices (DSOs) and 2000 Panchaya Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) has been tentatively fixed for the current year i.e. 2001-2002 of the Ninth Five Year Plan for the whole country. The post offices are opened as per projected targets on norm based justification, subject to availability of resources.

Department of Telecom.

One Telegraph Office serves 15443 population in the rural area as compared to one Telegraph Office serving 27986 population in urban area (figures based on 1991 census).

With the expansion of Telecom Network and introduction of STD and FAXfacilities the demand for telegraph offices is steadily decreasing . Therefore, no specific targets have been fixed. The telegraph offices are provided as per demand and justification.